

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 AGR-20 SWF-02 AID-20 CEA-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-03 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01

CIEP-03 SP-03 STR-08 TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 SAM-01

OMB-01 NEA-14 L-03 DRC-01 /151 W

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R 271642Z SEP 74

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7540

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY NWE DELHI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, FAO, EEC, EAID, IN

SUBJECT: EC FOOD AID FOR INDIA

REF: ROME 13242

1. SUMMARY: INDIA HAS APPROACHED THE COMMISSION
CONCERNING THE SERIOUS FAMINE SITUATION DEVELOPING
IN THAT COUNTRY AND HAS INDICATED THAT IT INTENDS
TO IMPORT 1 (ONE) MILLION TONS OF EC GRAIN AND
WANTS THE COMMUNITY TO PROVIDE HALF THAT AMOUNT
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AS FOOD AID. THE COMMISSION IS STUDYING THE

REQUEST BUT OUR SOURCES ARE NOT OPTIMISTIC REGARDING THE EC'S ABILITY TO RESPOND FULLY TO THIS ENORMOUS REQUEST. END SUMMARY.

2. THE EC COMMISSION HAS RECEIVED HIGH LEVEL INDIAN REPRESENTATIONS CONCERNING INDIA'S IMPENDING SEVERE FAMINE CONDITIONS. THE INDIAN AMBASSADOR PRESENTED AN AIDE MEMOIRE TO COMMISSIONER LARDINOIS ON SEPT. 12, AND A COPY WENT TO COMMISSIONER CHEYSSON IN A LETTER DATED SEPT. 15. THE AIDE MEMOIRE OUTLINES AN INDIAN PROPOSAL TO IMPORT 1,000,000 METRIC TONS OF EC GRAIN BEGINNING IN OCTOBER 1974. UNDER THE PROPOSAL INDIA WOULD PURCHASE 500,000 METRIC TONS COMMERCIALY IN THE EC GRAIN MARKET, AND THE EC WOULD PROVIDE THE OTHER 500,000 METRIC TONS AS FOOD AID.

3. THE COMMISSION IS STUDYING THE INDIAN REQUEST BUT OUR SOURCE WAS GUARDED IN HIS ASSESSMENT OF THE COMMUNITY'S ABILITY TO RESPOND. THE EC FOOD AID PROGRAM FOR THE ENTIRE WORLD IN 1974/75 AMOUNTS TO ONLY 600,000 METRIC TONS, SO EXTRAORDINARY MEASURES WOULD BE REQUIRED TO EVEN BEGIN TO MEET INDIA'S LATEST REQUEST. SPEAKING ONLY FOR HIMSELF, OUR SOURCE THOUGHT PERHAPS 100,000 TONS SHIPPED IN FEBRUARY/MARCH WAS MORE REALISTIC UNDER THE EC'S FOOD AID FOR 74/75.

4. FOR BACKGROUND, EXISTING EC FOOD AID PROGRAMS FOR INDIA ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. SHIPMENTS ARE STILL IN PROGRESS ON AN EC FOOD AID PROGRAM BEGUN ONE YEAR AGO AND INVOLVING 3,000 TONS OF BUTTEROIL AND 2,750 TONS OF SKIM MILK POWDER. DELVERS UNDER THIS PROGRAM ARE EXPECTED TO CONCLUDE BY DECEMBER.

B. IN JUNE INDIA ASKED THE EC FOR 30,000 TONS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF WHEAT. THIS IS BEING PROVIDED FROM EC RESERVES AND IS SCHEDULED TO BE SHIPPED IN NOVEMBER. GREENWALD

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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US Department of State
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